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COMPANY OF

CAPTAIN HENRY BRUSH'S SEPARATE COMPANY,

OHIO MILITIA, 1812

H. Charles McBarron, Jr.

Plate 1 shows an officer, drummer and private of Captain Henry Brush's Separate Company, Ohio Militia, as it served as guards of a supply train going to General Hull in Detroit during the summer of 1812. The unit was organized by order of Return J. Meigs, Governor of Ohio, mustered in July 20 of that year and mustered out August 24.

Although short-lived, Brush's company played a stellar role in that ill-fated expedition. Driving a hundred head of beef cattle and escorting other supplies and the mail, Brush left Urbanna late in July and reached the River Raisin at the west end of Lake Erie. There he learned of a British and Indian force lying in ambush ahead and sent to Hull for assistance. That feeble commander, after much vacillation, sent three successive forces to rescue the needed supplies, all of which failed to reach Brush. The last one returned to Detroit on August 15 and on the following day Hull surrendered his entire army. Brush in the meanwhile returned to Urbanna.

The dress of Brush's men was typical of many of the better frontier companies of the War of 1812. Here is what one of its members had to say about the uniform and equipment:

Every one, officers and men, were alike dressed in unbleached, tow-linen hunting shirts, and trousers of the same material, with low-crown hats, on the left side of which were worn black cockades about two inches in diameter, on the center of which were displayed small silver eagles about the size of a silver quarter-dollar. Around the waist of each was a stout leather girdle; in a leather pocket attached to this was slung behind a good sized tomahawk, and in a leather sheath, also attached to the girdle, hung a medium sized butcher-knife. On the right hip, attached to a broad leather strap, thrown over the left shoulder hung the cartridge box, filled with ball-cartridges. On the left side, in a leather sheath, suspended to another broad leather strap, thrown over the right shoulder, hung the bayonet. On the same side hung also a tin canteen, holding about a quart, suspended to a small leather strap over the right shoulder. The fire-arm was a United States musket, with bayonet, and a leather strap by which to sling the musket over the shoulder, for more convenient carrying when on a march. The knapsack was a heavy, linen sack, painted and varnished, about sixteen inches wide, and of the same depth, with a flap on the under side, thrown over the mouth, and tied by strings. To the upper and lower corner on each side was a strap through which to pass the arms. The knapsack was the repository of the changes of clothing, and such articles of necessity or convenience as each might choose to take along. On the top was lashed the blanket, and over this a piece of oil-cloth to protect all from the rain. The knapsack

was slung on the back, and the straps through which the arms passed were tied by another strap across the breast. The arms and accoutrements including the knapsack, weighed about thirty or thirty-five pounds.¹

Elsewhere it is stated that Brush's company stored the day's provisions of pole bread and cooked bacon in their knapsacks; they had no haversacks. On July 25 the company agreed upon a design and purchased the material or "stuff," as they called it. Through the exertions of the ladies all the uniforms were completed before evening. There was probably not much uniformity in equipment, as knapsacks, canteens and blankets were all provided by private individuals.

I have given them black leather equipment because I believe that white buff was too difficult to procure and too expensive for frontier militia or volunteers.² The drum sling is white webbing of regular Government issue; the material cheap and easy to procure; the drum probably blazoned with the eagle, etc., rather than state arms. I have given the musket a russet leather gun sling, though it may have been black. I have put the officer in boots and pantaloons because I doubt that everyone was as uniformly dressed as the memory of forty-two years would make them. Some of the officers would wear trousers, perhaps buttoned at the ankle, as well as the men who were able to get a little extra effort out of their women folk.

¹ Samuel Williams, ed., "Two Western Campaigns In the War of 1812-13", in *OHIO VALLEY HIST. SERIES, Misc. No. 2*, (Cincinnati, 1870) 14-15; written originally in 1854 for the *LADIES' REPOSITORY*.

² See letter, Sec. of War to Purveyor Pub. Supplies, Feb. 14, 1812 (in national Archives): "As buff leather cannot be procured, extend your contract for black belts for cartouch boxes and bayonet scabbards to 25,000 or nearly that number."

CAPTAIN ROBERT MULLAN'S COMPANY, CONTINENTAL MARINES, 1779

H. Charles McBarron, Jr.

Captain Robert Mullan (or Mullen) was commissioned in the Continental Marines in June 1776¹. At that time he was the proprietor of the Tun Tavern, a hostelry on the east side of King (Water) Street, Philadelphia, and it was his tavern that became the first recruiting center for Marines². Captain Mullan does not appear to have gone to sea during his career in the Corps. Although he saw some action with his Marines in the Trenton-Princeton campaign under Washington, the major part of his service was spent in conducting the depot company in Philadelphia. Here Marines were recruited and trained prior to their assignment to ships of the Continental Navy.

In November 1779 the "regimentals" of the enlisted men of Mullan's company, as described in a Philadelphia newspaper, consisted of a green coat with red facings, white woolen jacket, light colored cloth breeches, woolen stockings, and a round hat with white binding.³ Previous to 1778 the Marine facings had been white, and the date of and reason for the change to red are

¹ Information furnished by Mr. Joel D. Thacker, Historical Section, USMC, Washington, D.C.

² Clyde H. Metcalf, *A HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS* (New York, 1939), 12.

³ Deserter description in *PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE AND WEEKLY ADVERTISER*, November 10, 1779.

not clear. The green and red uniform would unquestionably reflect the poverty of supply in the Continental service, and I have pictured the men in breeches of imperfectly bleached cloth and without gaiters. I have supposed the coarse woolen stockings to be unbleached. As likely as not, the officers had white breeches and thread stockings, as well as gaiters to protect them when on landing parties. I have used the minimum of white buff leather, which was difficult to procure; the knapsack straps, for example, are of natural colored leather of the cheap sort.

In 1775 the insignia on the drums of the Marines was described as being the rattlesnake with the familiar "Don't Tread On Me" motto.⁴ There is no evidence for the color of the background of the insignia, which I have left white in view of the color of the facings in 1775.

The green and red uniform appears to have been worn by the Marines, or at least by the majority of Marine detachments, from 1778 until the end of the Revolution when the Corps was dissolved. The Marine Corps was formally reestablished in 1798, at which date the uniform became blue faced with red.

⁴Letter in *PENNSYLVANIA JOURNAL AND WEEKLY ADVERTISER*, December 27, 1775.

22d REGIMENT, NEW YORK STATE MILITIA, 1862

Frederick P. Todd

The 22d Regiment was organized in New York City as the Union Grays on 13 May 1861. Its creation was sponsored by banking and insurance companies who, concerned with the departure of the city's militia units for Washington, furnished much of the money and other support for the new six-company unit. On 17 September 1861 the regiment was constituted in the State Militia as the 22d Regiment "to do duty as Light Infantry."

The following account gives an excellent picture of its early history, dress and arms:

Probably no military organization has ever been formed in any city which contained, in the first instance, so many well known and influential men as those who composed the Union Grays. Through their influence, and under the prestige which was justly attached to the name of Colonel Monroe, the ranks of the regiment were rapidly filled up, in spite of the fact that the volunteer regiments in the field were absorbing almost everybody having military inclinations.

It soon numbered over 400 men. They adopted as their uniform a single-breasted frock coat, cut in the French style, with the skirt reaching to the knee, made of gray cloth, with red collar and cuffs, trimmed with white piping. The trousers were of gray, with a red stripe edged with white piping down the sides; the cap was a gray kepi, with red band and top, each edged with white piping. Yellow leather leggins were afterwards adopted, which were greatly liked in the field, excluding the dust and keeping the trousers free from mud. The uniform and equipments were paid for by the men themselves. No more tasteful or trim-looking uniform has ever been seen in the City of New York than this, and the wearers were soon known as the Strawberry Grays. They also decided upon a gray fatigue jacket, but it was never procured.

Application was made at once to the State and Federal Government for arms for the new organization, but none were to be had, the authorities

being at their wits' end to supply the troops then at the front with guns. So great was the demand that Belgian guns of antiquated pattern, which were as apt to go off at half-cock as not, were being imported at high prices in order to arm the volunteers. Under these circumstances, the Union Grays purchased and imported Enfield rifles from England for their own use. These, unlike many of the guns which the Government was purchasing, were well-made and serviceable weapons. They were provided with sword bayonets, which presented a very formidable appearance, but which subsequent experience in the field led the men to think were inferior to the triangular bayonet. The average opinion was that they made the "rifles" "muzzle-heavy," and were useless, even for chopping wood. Unlike American rifles, the parts of which are made interchangeable, those of each of the Enfields used by the Twenty-second were different from the other. This difference was too slight to be detected by the eye, but it was sufficient to constitute an intense annoyance in service. If a man did not pick up his own gun, which was frequently the case on duty, his bayonet would not fit, and when the guns were taken apart to be cleaned, if the parts belonging to two guns were mixed, it was a most aggravating task to separate them. The sergeants' rifles were much shorter than the others.¹

For its first year the 22d Regiment trained in New York City, where its gay appearance and sedentary status gained it the nickname of "Home Guard." Its first call came in May 1862 when, in the panic caused by Jackson's threatening moves toward Washington, it was ordered south. It left on the 28th, stopped briefly in Baltimore, and then moved to Harper's Ferry. There it was stationed until its term of service expired on 24 August. It volunteered to remain longer, in view of an expected Confederate attack, and was ordered home on 31 August to be mustered out on 5 September. It is while on this brief tour of duty that we see the regiment in the accompanying plate.

While at Harper's Ferry the 22d was visited by a cameraman, possibly employed by Mathew Brady. This enterprising man took over fifty photographs of individuals and groups of the unit, and it is from these pictures that our figures are taken.² By this time the Regiment had sent home its gray dress coats because of their resemblance to those worn by the Confederate artillery, and was wearing the Army blue fatigue blouse.³ Otherwise its dress was, in the main, as before. For some reason the drummers continued to wear their special dress coats, and it is apparent that here and there the regulation sky blue trousers had replaced the gray regimental type.

The Regiment at this time wore several distinctive devices, the most interesting of which is the insignia on the cap pouch. No example is known to exist today. The equipment was standard infantry. In September 1862 the unit abandoned the "strawberry gray" and adopted a new blue "chasseur uniform," but in 1863 it again served in the field in the regulation Army fatigue dress.⁴

Following the Civil War the 22d Regiment grew into one of the most popular organizations of the city. It had its share of riot duty, and served in the Spanish-American War and in both World Wars. In 1902 the Regiment was converted to engineers and today is the 102d Engineer Combat Battalion.

¹George W. Wingate, *A HISTORY OF THE TWENTY-SECOND REGIMENT*. . . . New York, 1896, 19-21; lithographic music cover "Parade March of the . . . Union-Grays," 1862.

²Original negatives in the National Archives.

³Wingate, *OP.CIT.*, 30, 31, 33, 48, 49, 80, 81.

⁴A detailed description of the unit's uniforms 1862-1895 is given in Wingate, *OP.CIT.*, 375-85.

1st U. S. DRAGOON REGIMENT, 1836-1851

H. Charles McBarron, Jr.

The United States Regiment of Dragoons was constituted 2 March, 1833, and organized at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, and Fort Gibson, Arkansas Territory in 1833 and 1834. It replaced the uniformless, self-equipped corps of rangers, organized the previous year and at that time the only mounted troops on the permanent establishment. By June of 1834 its ten companies had been raised and stationed on the frontier, a portion of them riding 435 miles to Arkansas Territory, over country virtually without roads.¹

In those formative days the uniforms of the dragoons were anything but regular. In August 1833, James Hildreth, a recruit, found at Jefferson Barracks "several young men attired in what I afterwards learned to be the fatigue uniform, a blue roundabout [jacket] trimmed with yellow lace, white pantaloons, and forage caps...." For a time he felt the troops resembled "Jack Falstaff's ragged regiment," but on the eve of their march to Arkansas Territory, he wrote: "We have not yet received our [dress] uniforms (as they have been sent to Fort Gibson) but even in our 'fatigues' we make an imposing appearance when mounted."²

In June 1834 the entire Regiment of some 600 men and officers was reviewed at Fort Gibson prior to the Pawnee Expedition. There it was seen by George Catlin.³ The horses of each company were of a single color: bays, blacks, grays, sorrels, whites and creams, to use Catlin's description. The men wore their fatigue dress.

It is difficult to determine when the complete Regiment first received its full dress uniforms, but it is unlikely that they were worn much before the fall of 1834 by which time the companies were scattered between Forts Leavenworth, Gibson and Des Moines. Full dress had its uses on the frontier in impressing visiting Indians, and it was often worn. The uniforms shown are based on regulations issued in 1833.⁴ They were unchanged by the *Regulations for the Uniform and Dress of the Army of the United States*, for 1839,⁵ and remained virtually the same through the period of the Mexican War to 1851, when Frank B. Mayer sketched the Regiment in Minnesota. In that year the dress was radically altered by the regulations of 12 June.

The dragoon in Plate No. 4 carries the Hall carbine, a breech-loading arm made expressly for the Regiment of Dragoons in 1833 and issued in different models at least through 1846. Most of these weapons were manufactured percussion, and the Model 1833 was the first percussion arm to be adopted by the United States Army. The carbine is carried on the sling described in the *Ordnance Manual* of 1841, as are the other pieces of equipment. The sword is the model 1833 dragoon saber with 34 1/4 inch quill-back blade and browned scabbard, described in *Ordnance Instructions* for 1836. The schabraque or saddlecloth illustrated was not used by enlisted men after the introduction of the Grimsley saddle about 1845.

In 1836 the Regiment of Dragoons was redesignated the 1st Dragoons, and in 1861 it became the 1st Cavalry Regiment. It was mechanized in 1933 and converted and redesignated the 1st Armored Regiment (Light) in 1940. Other changes followed rapidly: in 1943 it was reorganized as the 1st Tank Battalion, and in 1946 as the 1st Constabulary Squadron for occupation duty in Germany.

¹Regimental returns in the National Archives; Orders 14 and 15, Hdqrs. of the Army, 6 and 11 March 1833; Louis Pelzer, *MARCHES OF THE DRAGOONS IN THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY*, Iowa City, 1917, 13-33; James Hildreth, *DRAGOON CAMPAIGNS TO THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS...*, New York, 1836, 13-83.

²Hildreth, *OP. CIT.*, 28, 29, 38, 51, 52.

³George Catlin, *LETTERS AND NOTES ON THE ... NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS*, 2 vols., New York, 1841, II, 37, 38.

⁴General Orders 38, Hdqrs. of the Army, 2 May 1833, compared with Clothing Records in the National Archives.

⁵General Orders 36, Hdqrs. of the Army, 21 June 1839.

SOME NOTES ON THE EQUIPMENT OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIER

Harold L. Peterson

Source material on the equipment of the American infantry private in the Revolutionary War is scanty and widely scattered. It is often necessary to peruse many volumes of documents and visit scores of museums in order to find one good descriptive reference or one authentic specimen. With this in mind, it was thought that a compilation of the most informative notes on the subject would prove a valuable aid to students and be a worthy project for this magazine. The following initial effort represents a selection from the notes taken over a period of years by Mr. H. Charles McBarron, Jr., Mr. Frederick P. Todd, and myself. Other notes which throw additional light on the appearance and construction of such articles of equipment are earnestly solicited, as are drawings and photographs of authentic specimens. Weapons *per se* are somewhat better known and have been omitted from this first grouping. They can, however, be added as a separate section if desired.

The articles of equipment which a private soldier was supposed to carry were numerous and varied. In some instances these articles were supplied by the colonies. In others, the soldier was expected to provide his own equipment, for which he was theoretically granted an allowance. A typical list of desired items was posted for Massachusetts troops in 1779, when each private was required to supply himself with the following:

ARTICLES OF EQUIPMENT

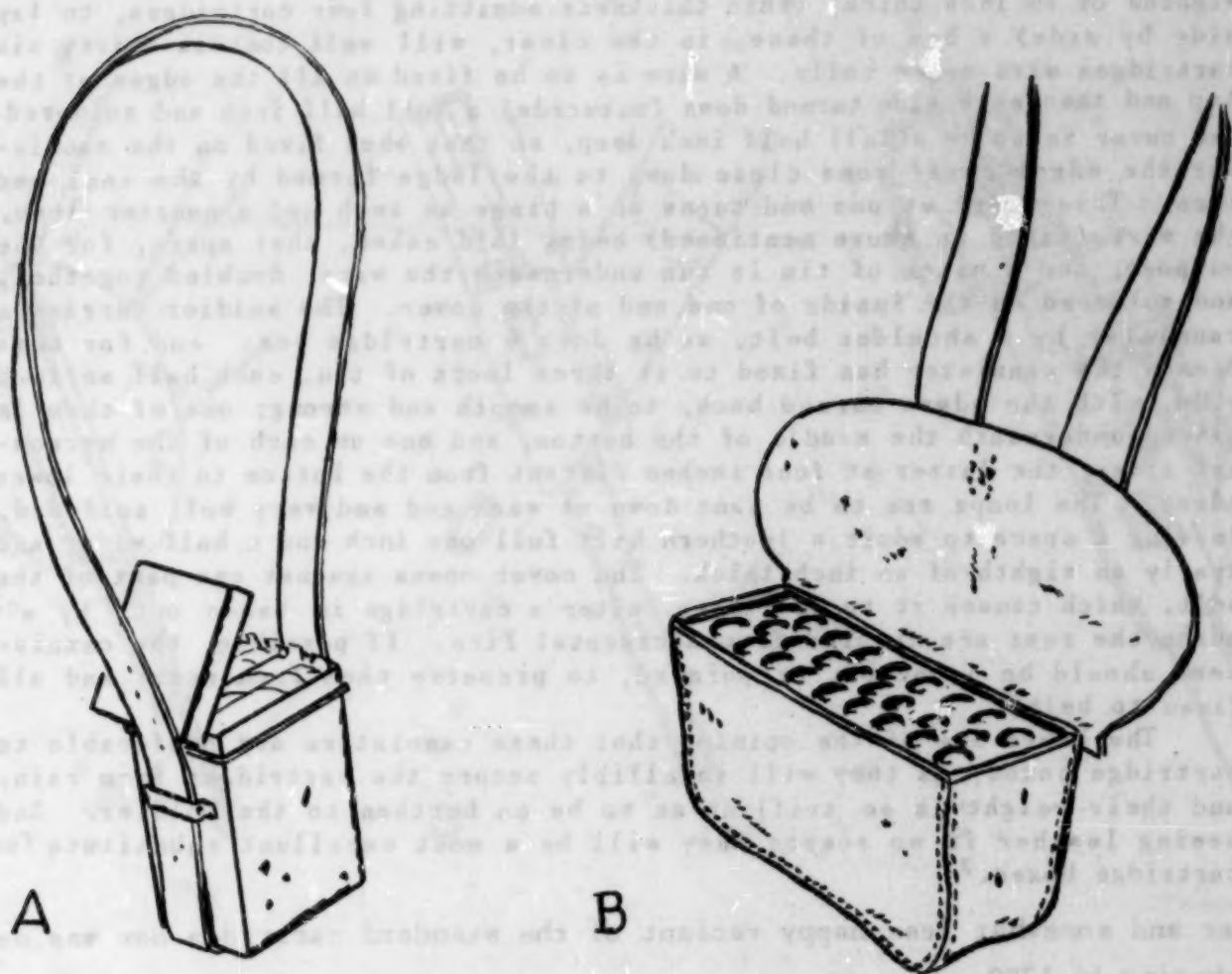
A good *Fire-Arm*, with a *Steel* or *Iron Ram-Rod*, and a *Spring* to retain the same, a *Worm*, *Priming wire* and *Brush*, and a *Bayonet* fitted to your *GUN*, a *Scabbard* and *Belt* therefor, and a *Cutting Sword*, or a *Tomahawk* or *Hatchet*, a *Pouch* containing a *Cartridge Box*, that will hold fifteen *Rounds of Cartridges* at least, a hundred *Buck Shot*, a *Jack-Knife* and *Tow* for *Wadding*, six *Flints*, one pound *Powder*, forty *Leaden Balls* fitted to your *GUN*, a *Knapsack* and *Blanket* a *Canteen* or *Wooden Bottle* sufficient to hold one *Quart*.¹

The general wording of such lists allowed for a great variation in the appearance of the different items, and of course there were makeshifts and substitutions. One of the most important substitutions was that of powder horn and shot pouch for the cartridge box. Riflemen always used the horn and pouch because cartridges were of no use to them. The cartridge box, or cartouch box as it was often called, was preferred for the great majority of soldiers who were armed with muskets because of the increased speed in loading which could be obtained by the use of prepared cartridges. Nevertheless, most colonies accepted either the horn or the box as fulfilling the requirements.

The standard cartridge box was a simple affair. It consisted of a rectangular block of wood in one side of which a number of holes were bored to hold the cartridges. This block of wood was fitted into a leather case with a large flap covering the entire top and front as a protection against the weather. The number of holes varied greatly, but 24-36 rounds were generally recommended. These boxes were worn on the right side, usually supported by a shoulder belt.

There were, however, many deviations from this standard pattern. One of the most widely used variants was the tin cannister. The Board of War recommended the adoption of the cannister as a substitute for the cartridge box early in 1778, and numerous references indicate that they were issued in quantity in many areas. No surviving specimen has yet been identified, but a reconstruction based on the following contemporary description is included among the illustrations.

¹Broadside order. 1779, in Ralph Gabriel, editor, *PAGEANT OF AMERICA*, 15 vols., New Haven, 1925-29, VI, 187.



- A. Reconstruction of the tin cartridge cannister based on contemporary description. See Text.
- B. American cartridge box with a flap too small to cover the entire front of the box. The shoulder belt is of unbleached linen; the covering of the box is black leather. From a specimen at Morristown National Historical Park.

The recommendation to provide cartridge boxes and tin cannisters is given, because of the almost total want of them in the public stores, and the impossibility of making a number of them in any degree equal to the demands of the army, in public manufactories, where workmen are few, and it is impossible to encrease them: agreeable to the direction of congress, the board give the following Description of the tin cannisters.

They are to be six inches and a half deep, or long; three inches and three quarters of an inch broad (this breadth receiving the cartridges lengthways, as they lie in a horizontal position) and two inches and seven eighths of an inch thick; (this thickness admitting four cartridges, to lay side by side) a box of these, in the clear, will well contain thirty six cartridges with ounce balls. A wire is to be fixed in all the edges at the top and then each side turned down (outwards), a full half inch and soldered. The cover is to be a full half inch deep, so that when fixed on the cannister the edges shall come close down to the ledge formed by the inclosed wire. This cover at one end turns on a hinge an inch and a quarter long, the wire (fixed as above mentioned) being laid naked, that space, for the purpose; and a piece of tin is run underneath the wire, doubled together, and soldered on the inside of one end of the cover. The soldier carries a cannister by a shoulder belt, as he does a cartridge box: and for this reason the cannister has fixed to it three loops of tin, each half an inch wide, with the edges turned back, to be smooth and strong; one of them is placed underneath the middle of the bottom, and one on each of the narrowest sides, the latter at four inches distant from the bottom to their lower edges. The loops are to be sent down at each end and very well soldered, leaving a space to admit a leathern belt full one inch and a half wide, and nearly an eighth of an inch thick. The cover opens against one part of the belt, which causes it to fall down, after a cartridge is taken out, by which means the rest are secured from accidental fire. If possible, the cannisters should be japanned, or painted, to preserve them from rust; and all fixed to belts.

The board are of the opinion that these cannisters are preferable to cartridge boxes, as they will infallibly secure the cartridges from rain, and their weight is so trifling as to be no burthen to the Soldier. And seeing leather is so scarce they will be a most excellent substitute for cartridge boxes.²

Another and somewhat less happy variant of the standard cartridge box was described by Timothy Pickering in 1780:

We expected to be able to send you 2000 cartridge boxes; but we have been disappointed and Maj. Pierce has received at present but between six and seven hundred. -- as time is pressing a slight kind may be provided -- The British have for several years past, furnished their new levies with cartridge boxes made of close wood (as maple or beech) with no other covering than a good leather flap nailed to it at the back near the upper edge, and of sufficient breadth to cover the top & whole front of the box; they are fixed to the body by a waist belt, which passes through two loops that are nailed to the front of the box --³ cartridge boxes of this kind will answer very well & may be made at small expense.

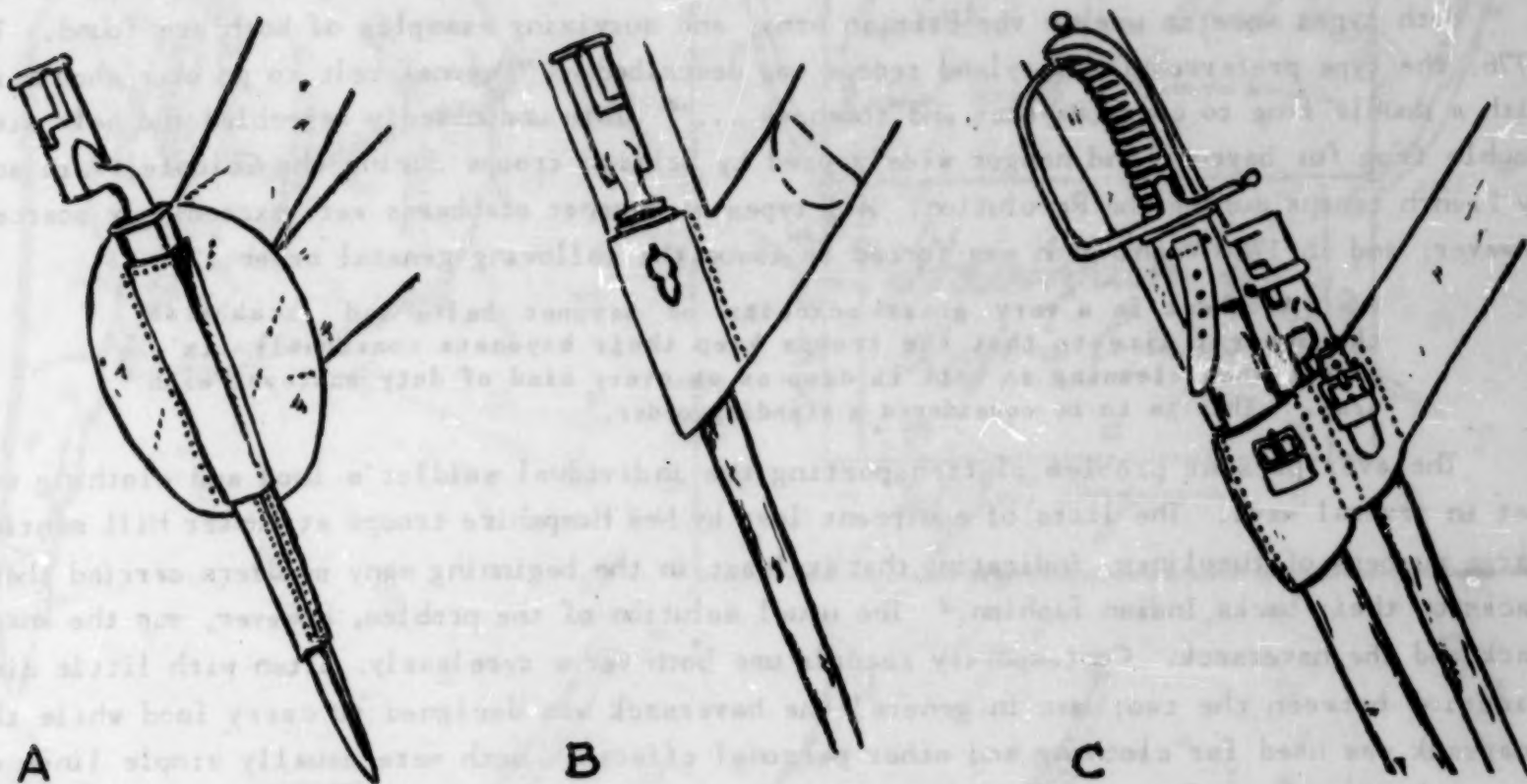
Actually, troops in the field were often equipped with all manner of makeshifts. The two following notes reflect conditions at their worst:

Copy -- "Sir, the 300 cartouch boxes, that I informed you I understood were on the road from Virginia, are just come in. I have received them and can assure you they are not worthy of the name. Numbers of them are without any straps, others without flaps, and scarce any of them would preserve the cartridges in a moderate shower of Rain -- What straps there are to the boxes are of linen."⁴

²Gen. Horatio Gates, President, Board of War, to Thomas Johnson, March 28, 1778, "Journal and Correspondence of the Council of Maryland, 1777-78", William H. Browne and others, editors, ARCHIVES OF MARYLAND, 62 vols., Baltimore, 1884-1945, XVI, 558, 559.

³Pickering to Jefferson, July 3, 1780, William P. Palmer & H. W. Flounoy, editors, CALENDAR OF VIRGINIA STATE PAPERS, 11 vols., Richmond, 1875-1893, I, 364, 365.

⁴Edward Stevens to General Gates, July 21, 1780, IBID., 367.



- A. A somewhat unusual American bayonet scabbard. The scabbard is made of black leather, and the straps of unbleached linen. The leather has dried and shrunk with age so that the bayonet no longer fits, and the tip of the scabbard has broken off. From a specimen at Guilford Courthouse National Military Park.
- B. The common bayonet frog on a shoulder belt; a British example worn by the Coldstream Guards, c. 1788. The scabbard is of black leather; the shoulder belt of white leather. From a photograph in the *Journal of the Society for Army Historical Research*, XXII (1944), 240, 241.
- C. The double frog for bayonet and sword worn by French infantry at the time of the American Revolution. The sword has been raised to show the strap and buckle method of fastening. The scabbards are of black leather; the belt of white leather. Based on sketches of originals by Job (De Breville) and L. Rousselot.

The arms are in general good but the cartouch boxes bad, many of the old construction and wore out. Some with waist belts, others without any belts at all slung by pieces of rope or other strings -- I could therefore ...wish that a quantity of British arms and accoutrements not exceeding \$66 stand may be sent me.⁵

Contrary to popular fancy, Colonial officers put great faith in the bayonet and strongly advocated the use of "cold steel". Great exertions were made to provide every soldier with one and to teach him to rely on it as a weapon. Bayonets were usually worn in a scabbard on the left side. This scabbard might be supported either from a waist belt or from a shoulder belt.

Both types were in use in the British army, and surviving examples of both are found. In 1776, the type preferred for Maryland troops was described as "Bayonet belt to go over shoulder, with a double frog to carry bayonet and tomahawk...."⁶ This undoubtedly resembled the belt with double frog for bayonet and hanger widely used by British troops during the Colonial Wars and by French troops during the Revolution. All types of bayonet scabbards were exceedingly scarce, however, and in 1780 Washington was forced to issue the following general order:

As there is a very great scarcity of bayonet belts and scabbards the General directs that the troops keep their bayonets constantly fix'd except when cleaning as well in camp as on every kind of duty whatever with arms. This is to be considered a standing order.

The ever present problem of transporting the individual soldier's food and clothing was met in several ways. The lists of equipment lost by New Hampshire troops at Bunker Hill mention large numbers of tumplines, indicating that at least in the beginning many soldiers carried their packs on their backs Indian fashion.⁸ The usual solution of the problem, however, was the knapsack and the haversack. Contemporary records use both terms carelessly, often with little distinction between the two; but in general the haversack was designed to carry food while the knapsack was used for clothing and other personal effects. Both were usually simple linen or canvas bags without frames. Sometimes they were made individually. At other times they were united in one piece of equipment. Probably the majority were carried in the older manner, suspended by a shoulder belt and slung under the left arm, well around to the back. Others undoubtedly followed the newer British model and were worn squarely on the back, much in the fashion of the modern knapsack.

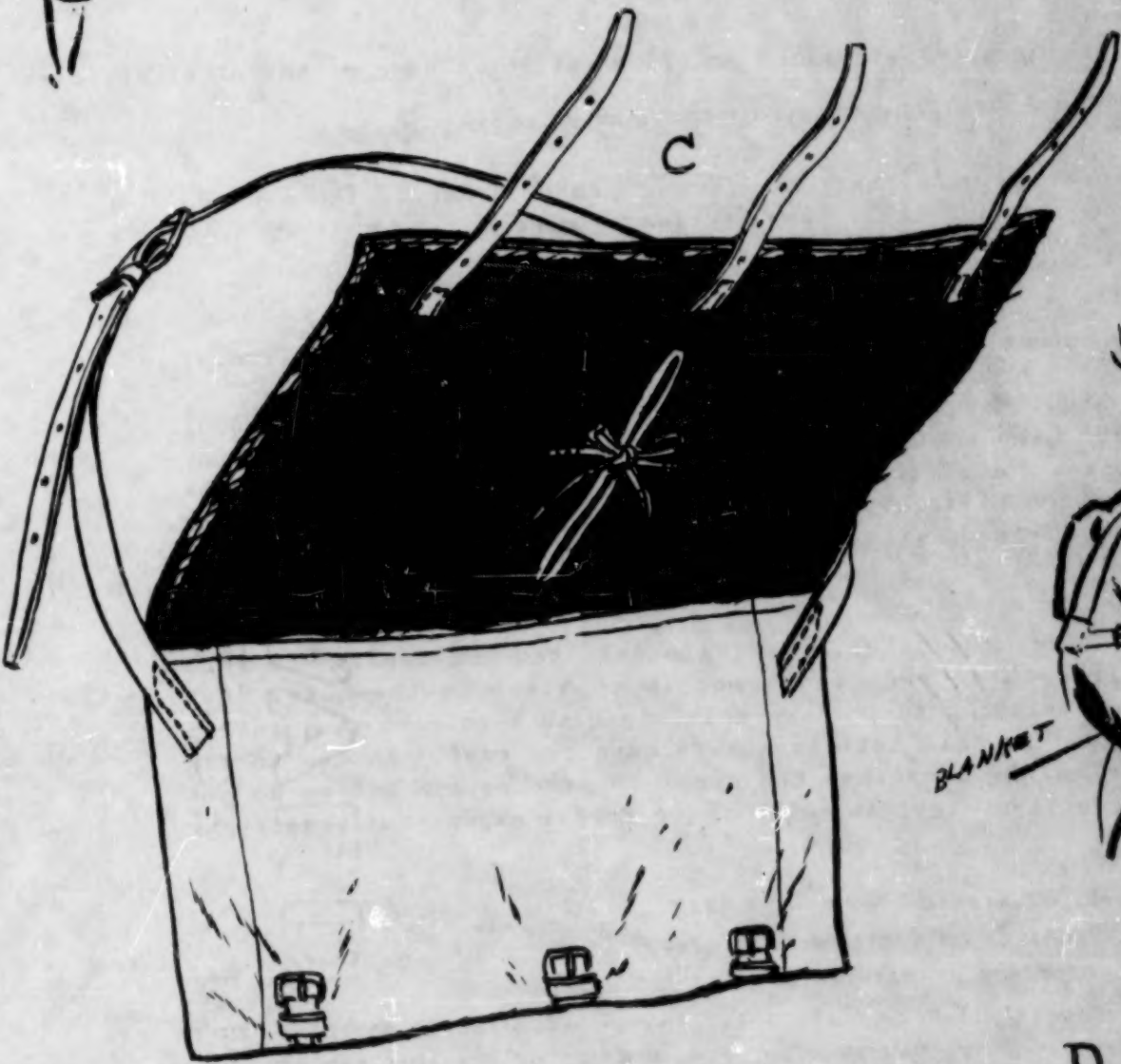
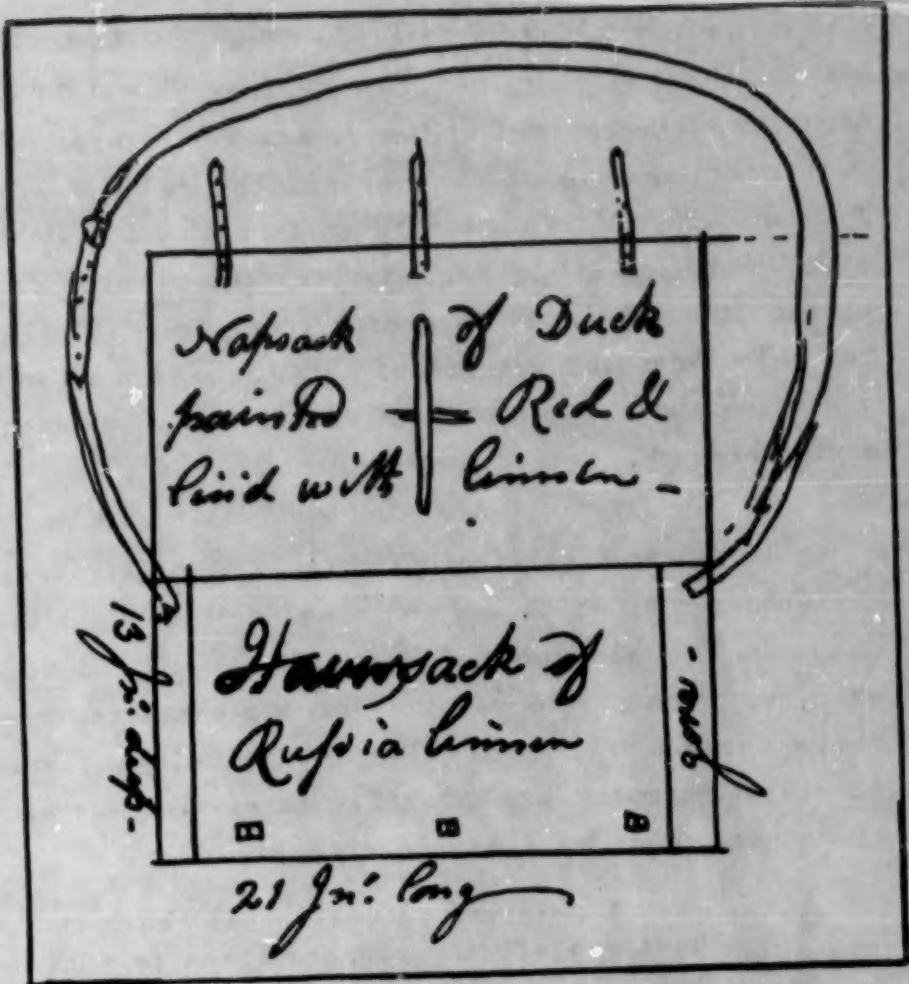
⁵Col. C. Febiger to Col. Davies, December 3, 1781, *IBID.*, II, 656.

⁶J. Young to Samuel Chase, February 9, 1776, Browne, *ARCHIVES OF MARYLAND*, XI, 150.

⁷August 2, 1780, John C. Fitzpatrick, editor, *THE WRITINGS OF GEORGE WASHINGTON*, 39 vols., Washington, 1931-1944, XIX, 304.

⁸Nathaniel Bouton and others, editors, *NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE PAPERS*, 40 vols., Manchester, 1867-1941, VII, *PASSIM*.

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- A. The simple canvas knapsack (without haversack) of the period of the Revolution; a plain flat sack with flap. Reconstruction by Mr. H. Charles McBarron, Jr., from a contemporary description.
 - B. Contemporary sketch of the "new Invented Napsack and haversack in one" as worn by many American troops in 1776 and throughout the war. See text.
 - C. Reconstruction of the above.
 - D. The rolled blanket and skin-covered knapsack as carried by some British troops. From a contemporary sketch of the 25th Foot in 1771, *Journal of the Society for Army Historical Research*, XVIII (1939), 125.



In the Archives of Maryland under the date of February 9, 1776, there is a rough contemporary sketch of a "...new Invented Napsack and haversack in one That is adopted by the American Regulars of Pennsylvania, New Jersey & Virginia...."⁹ [see cut]. This drawing shows the knapsack portion made of canvas, painted red and lined with linen. The haversack is made of Russian duck and is unpainted so that it could be washed. It is of the type worn on the left side, and when in proper position the painted canvas knapsack would be on the outside and protect the unpainted haversack from the weather. Food was placed in the haversack from the top. The knapsack was filled through a slit in the under side, which was then tied shut with a rawhide thong. The blanket was probably carried between the two sections, supported by the straps beneath.

The canteens carried by American Revolutionary soldiers fall into two distinct categories: the wooden keg, which was the commoner type; and the metal flask or bottle. Both were usually designed to hold about a quart of liquid and were carried on the left side, slung from a shoulder strap. The majority of the metal canteens were in all probability patterned after those carried by the British in the Colonial Wars and by the Hessians in the Revolution. Surviving examples are extremely rare. The Maryland Archives contain one interesting note on the construction of the wooden canteens:

I received your favor of the 30th...with your choice of canteens. I have set all the coopers I can to work on them. Some of them I have desired to be made of white oak, which I think will be much the best as the cedar will taste the water and not be so strong....¹⁰

In conclusion, the following notes are added as illustrative of some of the other articles of equipment carried by soldiers or transported in the supply train:

...company of pioneers, with their axes &c in proper order....The men are to be excused from carrying their Camp Kettles to morrow....¹¹

[Estimate of Quartermaster Stores for the Southern Army in the campaign of 1781]

Knapsacks, 3500; Marques, 8; Horsemen's Tents, 60; Common ditto, 600; Camp Kettles, 600; Camp Kettles with covers for officers, 150; Axes, 600; Leather Portmanteaus for officers, 150; Camp Stools, 150; Linen bags to be filled with straw for officers and sick, 250; Linen bags with slings for Camp Kettles, 600; Canteens with slings, 3500;....¹²

What can be more cruel than crowding eight, ten and twelve men into one tent, or oblige those who cannot get in to sleep in the heavy dews? What is more inconvenient than to have only one camp kettle to ten, twelve or fifteen men? and in this hot climate to have one small canteen to six or eight men? We think no expense too great to procure men but we do not think after we have them, that we ought to go to the expense of preserving their health.¹³

⁹Manuscript Archives of Maryland, Baltimore, Red Book 4, #13.

¹⁰J. Griest to Council, Browne, ARCHIVES OF MARYLAND, XII, 164.

¹¹August 23, 1777, Fitzpatrick, WRITINGS OF WASHINGTON, IX, 125, 127.

¹²Donald Yeates to Governor and Council, February 15, 1781, Browne, ARCHIVES OF MARYLAND, XLVII, 72.

¹³C. C. Pinckney to Moultrie, May 24, 1778, William Moultrie, MEMOIRS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, 2 vols., New York, 1802, I, 213.

